

B. Remarks**1. Status of the Application**

Claims 1-13, 15-26, and 28-47 are pending in the application. The claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0166291 ("Campbell"). The examiner has objected to claims 28-31 based on an informality. Applicant hereby amends claims 1, 19, 28, and 30. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

2. The Rejections Under 103(a) Have Been Overcome.

Claim 1, as amended, recites (emphasis added to reflect current amendment):

A casting riser pan comprising:

a wall having a top portion, a bottom portion, and an orientation element;

said wall defining an opening having an axis therethrough and substantially normal thereto, and said wall generally corresponding to the periphery of a removable concrete cover having an orientation element generally corresponding to and configured to mate with said orientation element of said wall to facilitate seating of said cover in said casting riser pan in a predetermined angular orientation about said axis with respect to the angular orientation of said casting riser pan about said axis.

The examiner rejected claim 1 as previously presented under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) on the grounds that Campbell purportedly discloses all of the limitations recited therein except the cover being made of concrete and that it purportedly would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to make the cover of concrete. By telephone on May 13, 2008, Applicant and the examiner discussed the pending rejection and agreed that it could be overcome by amending the claim as set forth above. Applicant respectfully submits that the current amendment simply makes explicit what was at least inherent in claim 1 as previously presented.

Claim 19 is similar in relevant part to claim 1. Applicant hereby amends claim 19 in a similar manner and submits that amended claim 19 overcomes the pending rejection thereof for

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similar reasons. Applicant submits that the rest of the pending claims depend from or otherwise incorporate the limitations of claim 1 or claim 19 and that, therefore, they are allowable, as well.

3. The Objections to Claims 28-30 Have Been Overcome.

Applicant submits that the examiner's objections to claims 28-30 are overcome by the present amendments to claims 28 and 30. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

4. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration toward that end.

Respectfully submitted,



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